

**Reminder: \*Steel shot is required on all GPA's and WPA's**  
**\*Bonus Blue-winged Teal not allowed during Youth Opener**

## Aurora County

Lynn Geuke



### Fishing report:

**Wilmarth Mitchell:** Activity has been slow.

**Reminder: The minimum length limit on Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass in the lake is 15"**

**THE ENTIRE LAKE OF WILMARTH IS A NO WAKE ZONE!**

**Nelson Lake:** No report. **NO VEHICLES DRIVING OFF ROADS.**



**Hunting report:** The Dove population in the area is decreasing due to colder weather, due to this hunting will become harder.

The Goose population in the area is sparse. There are a few pockets of geese in the area though. Hunting activity has been low for the area.

## Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



### Fishing Report:

**James River:** A few walleye have been caught near the dams.

**Lake Byron:** No report.

**Mud Lake:** No activity.

**Cavour Lake:** No report.

**Ravine:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunters have had some success but hunting overall has been slow.

## Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



### Fishing Report

**Missouri River:** Catfish are starting to bite more. They are using worms and stink bait. Carp are being caught on corn and even some channel cats. Drum are also biting on worms. Both large and smallmouth bass are biting on artificials.

**Lake Henry:** Bluegill and crappies are biting on worms, leaches and minnows. Small Rapala's are also catching bass and larger crappies.

**Remember bass size is 15 inches and the lake is slow-no wake.**

**Clear Lake:** No report.

**Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA):** FISH DIE OFF.

**Heritage GPA:** Small bluegill and bass are being caught on worms.



**Hunting Report:** No activity.

## Brookings County

Jeff Grendler



### **Fishing Reports:**

**Lake Sinai:** Some larger bluegill in that 11 inch range are being caught. Some large smallmouth bass are being caught in the southwest bay.

**West Lake Oakwood:** No activity.

**East Oakwood:** No Activity.

**Oak Lake:** Very little fishing activity.

**Brush Lake:** No Activity.

**Lake Poinsett:** Slow

**East 81 ponds:** No Activity.

**Lake Hendricks:** Some perch in that 14 inch range. Bite has been somewhat inconsistent.

**Lake Goldsmith:** No Activity.

**Lake Campbell:** No Activity.



**Hunting Report:** There are still some doves in the area but a good number have left with the cold weather. There are some Game Production Areas(GPA's) that were planted with sunflowers to draw in or attract doves to these areas. Areas in the Brookings County area include the Kamp GPA near the Big Sioux River and Oakwood GPA near Lake Oakwood.

There have been a number of Canada geese in the area and hunters have had some success. The northwest and southwest areas have been the most promising.

## Clay County

Tony Stokely



### **Fishing Report:**

**Missouri River:** Missouri River should start picking up for some walleye/saugeye with changing of cooler temps.

**Vermillion River:** Some fishing success along Vermillion river for catfish.

**Reminder:** There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



**Hunting Report:** A few field hunters in harvested wheat fields are having some success for geese. Dove hunters are also harvesting some birds in harvested wheat fields. Waterfowl hunters on the Missouri River will be dealing with higher water levels then in the years past. The higher water level is expected to stay the same or increase potentially until December 10th according to the Army Corp of Engineers. Archery Deer Hunters are prepping for opening weekend. Crop harvest will be a factor this year and will provide a lot of cover later into the year.

## Davison County

Andy Petersen



### **Fishing Report:**

**Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.**

**Lake Mitchell:** Bluegill and Crappie are being caught. Small bass and walleye. Nice catfish all around the lake.

**James River:** Catfish all along the river.



**Hunting Report: Dove:** Dove numbers appear to be decent in the area. Hunters that found the best success were hunting wheat fields or stock dams.

## Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



**Fishing Report:** Fishing has been rather slow.

**Lake Hanson:** Bullheads.

**Ethan Dam:** No report.

**James River:** Catfish all along the river.



**Hunting Report:**

**September Canada Goose** - The daily limit is 15 and scouting will be key. The State Migratory Bird Certification and Federal Waterfowl Stamp are required now.

**Dove-** There are still some dove in the area. Dove numbers appear to be decreasing in the area. Hunters having the best success were hunting wheat fields or stock dams.

## Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing:** Nice catfish are being caught on the James River using frogs.



**Hunting:** Dove hunting has been decent in areas where the wheat has been harvested.

## Jerauld County

Lynn Geuke



**Fishing Report:** No report.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunting has been slow in the area. Doves will be moving south with the colder weather moving in.

## Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



**Fishing Reports:**

**Lake Thompson:** Fair to good for walleye, crappie, pike, white bass, and some perch.

**West 81:** Fair success on walleye and white bass.

**Lake Whitewood:** Slow.

**Lake Henry:** Slow to fair for pike and walleye.

**Lake Albert:** Fair for pike and walleye.

**Spirit Lake:** Slow.

**Lake Preston:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Dove hunting – Little to no hunting pressure.  
Canada goose – Goose numbers are low and hunting pressure has been light.  
Local duck numbers are very strong.

## Lake County

Cody Symens



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Madison:** Angler activity has increased the last couple of weeks with fair/good success on walleye averaging in the 17" range. There have been several fish over 20" as well. The walleye seem to be relatively particular on the color of the lure so don't be hesitant to switch it up.

**Lake Herman:** Minimal fishing pressure but a few reports of walleye biting on spinners.

**Brant Lake:** Decent angler success on smallmouth bass and northern pike. There are good sized fish being caught in Brant Lake when you do find them!

**Long Lake:** No pressure.

**Lake Henry:** A few boats trying Lake Henry but fishing is difficult and inconsistent.

**Lake George:** No fish being reported; however, a few boats continue to test their luck.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunting has been slow but there is plenty of opportunity in the northern part of the county.

## Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



### Fishing Report:

**Big Sioux:** Not much fishing activity.

**Hudson:** Small Bluegill can still be caught from the fishing docks.

**Lake Alvin:** Not much fishing activity.

**Lake Lakota:** No fishing activity.



**Hunting Report:** There are still a good number of doves in the area with more and more beginning to bunch up. Dove hunters should likely have another week of decent dove hunting in the county. More ducks have begun to show up in the area this past week and youth hunters should have fair luck this weekend if a little bit of scouting is done.

## McCook County

Matt Talbert



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Vermillion:** Shore anglers have had some luck on Catfish. Not much water is running over the spillway reducing the likelihood of catching anything in that area. Boat anglers have been picking up a few walleye here and there early and late in the day.

**Island Lake:** Shore and Boat anglers will have some luck on pike and smallmouth bass.

**Lehrman Slough:** No fishing activity seen.



### Hunting Report:

**September Canada Goose** - The daily limit is 15 and scouting will be key. The State Migratory Bird Certification and Federal Waterfowl Stamp are required now.

**Dove-** There are still a few doves around. Don't expect them to stick around much longer.

# Miner County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** No activity.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunters are having fair success. Dove numbers are decreasing. Scouting will be key. Farmers are cutting silage which will open up more areas for goose and dove hunting.

# Minnehaha County

Jared Hill



**Fishing Report:**

**Beaver Lake:** A few walleye, small perch and crappie.

**Scott Slough:** Bullheads fair to good. A few small perch and walleye.

**Island Lake:** A few musky, perch, and walleye.

**Loss Lake:** Bullheads fair and a few walleye.

**Lost Lake:** No reports.

**Twin Lakes:** Walleyes fair to good. **(REMEMBER: 28 inch minimum on Walleyes.)**

**Family Park:** A few trout, bluegill, and crappie.

**Wall Lake:** A few walleye, blue gill, and crappie.

**Clear Lake:** No reports.



**Hunting Report:** Goose hunters who have spent time scouting are having success. Try and pattern the birds to maximize your opportunity.

# Moody County

Chad Williams



**Fishing Report:** Anglers are starting to catch some nice walleyes below the Flandreau Dam using jig head and minnow. Catfish have been biting well using liver, stink bait, crawlers, and raw shrimp or leopard frogs.



**Hunting Report:** There are still some doves around. Hunters are reminded not to forget their migratory bird certification and to look in the Hunting Handbook for special restrictions pertaining to dove season.

Most of the geese found in the county are west of I-29. Hunting should improve when farmers start cutting silage and open up some more fields.

# Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



**Fishing Report:** Fishing activity has been minimal in the county.



**Hunting Report:** A few doves still in the area. Scouting will be key. Farmers are starting to cut silage so look for success to go up. Goose numbers have remained the same.

# Turner County

Brian Humphrey



**Fishing Report:** No activity observed.



**Hunting:** Hunters at Mud Lake GPA should have some success in the youth waterfowl opener.

# Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



**Fishing Report:** Little fishing activity.

**Missouri River:** Low activity.

**Big Sioux River:** Low activity. Boaters still accessing Sioux River on Hwy 50 east of Richland on Iowa side, also north of Akron.

**McCook Lake:** Little to no activity.

**Reminder:** There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



**Hunting Report:** Minimal success on geese and doves. Youth Waterfowl season is Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Teal numbers are sporadic with good numbers at times, this is weather dependent. Waterfowl hunters on the Missouri River will be dealing with higher water levels than in the years past. The higher water level is expected to stay the same or increase potentially until December 10<sup>th</sup> according to the Army Corp of Engineers. Archery Deer Hunters are prepping for opening weekend. Crop harvest will be a factor this year and will provide a lot of cover later into the year.

# Yankton County

Dan Altman



**Fishing Report:**

**Marindahl:** Fishing pressure and success has been low. Some anglers report catching a lot of bullheads and small bluegill. Occasional 2-3 pound catfish are being caught.

**Lewis and Clark:** Anglers are catching walleye near the Yankton/Bon Homme County line. Some smallmouth bass and channel catfish are being caught around Lewis and Clark Marina.

**James River:** The bite is slow.

**Lake Yankton:** **DEAD!!!** The first stage of the Lake Yankton renovation project is complete. Stocking efforts are scheduled for this fall

**Missouri River:** The bite has slowed. Occasional walleye, smallmouth bass, drum and pike are being caught below Gavin's Point Dam.



**Hunting Report:** The September Canada goose season is open in Yankton County. Canada geese are sparse throughout most of the county but some opportunity exists further north. Dove season is also open but many of the doves moved on during last week's cool spell.

Region 3 updates.